

MINUTES OF AGREEMENT

Meeting of Joint US/USSR Working Group on Prevention and
Cleanup of Pollution of the Marine Environment from Shipping

Moscow

13 December, 1974

1. In accordance with the Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed on May 23, 1972, and the Memorandum of Procedures of the US/USSR Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection of 21 September 1972, the third meeting of the Joint US/USSR Working Group on Prevention and Cleanup of Pollution of the Marine Environment from Shipping was held in the Soviet Union from November 30 to December 15, 1974.

2. The list of participants is attached (Attachment I).

3. During the period of the visit, the U.S. delegation became acquainted with the oily waste reception and treatment facilities at Batumi and Novorossiysk, the anti-pollution systems aboard various vessels of the Ministry of the Merchant Marine, a device for collecting oil discharges and debris in ports, the Merchant Marine Central Research Institute at Leningrad, the ports of Batumi, Sukhumi, Sochi, Novorossiysk, Riga, and Leningrad, and conferred with officials of the Georgian, Black Sea, Baltic, and Latvian Shipping Companies and professors of the Chair of Hydrobiology at Moscow State University.

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4. Discussions were conducted on the following subjects and questions of mutual concern:

- a) Development of standard test procedures for evaluation of chemical dispersing and collecting agents;
- b) General technical requirements for ships pursuant to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973;
- c) U.S. recommendation of available oil clean-up and emergency salvage equipment suitable for installation on a special Soviet emergency-salvage vessel;
- d) Oil containment and recovery devices as specified in the Minutes of Agreement dated September 11, 1974.
- e) Development of standard methods for prompt identification of the source of discharges;
- f) Oil discharge monitoring and control systems, development of oil content measuring instruments, procedure for discharge of light refined oils, and standard analytical methods to determine instrument accuracy, all in the context of Annex I to the 1973 Convention;
- g) Technical requirements for reception facilities which satisfy, in number and capacity, Annexes I, II and IV of the 1973 Convention;
- h) Standards and test methods for sewage treatment plants on ships.

5. As a result of discussions the following conclusions were reached:

a) A comprehensive plan of cooperative testing and evaluations of dispersing and collecting agents and the exchange of conclusions is being formulated with the aim of completing this task in 1975. Specific details for this program will be developed in an exchange of letters between the Project Leaders in the first quarter of 1975.

b) General technical requirements for ships pursuant to the 1973 Convention should be considered by both sides, separately and jointly, to identify those tasks which can profitably be undertaken jointly. In such considerations due regard should be given the work program of the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

c) During the course of discussions on the U.S. recommendation of equipment for a Soviet emergency salvage vessel, both sides agreed to continue periodic consultations throughout the design process of the Soviet vessel.

d) The exchange of information on oil containment and recovery devices will continue, with ultimate exchange of devices for purposes of evaluation as the goal. Arrangements for the exchange of heavy containment booms and the Soviet Vortex recovery device will be addressed by an exchange of correspondence between the Project Leaders in the second or third quarter of 1975.

e) Recognizing the importance of the development of standard methods for prompt identification of the source of discharges, discussions on this subject were begun and it was agreed to include this task in the program of future cooperation.

f) Both sides agreed that a task concerning the review of availability of oil discharge monitoring and control systems, development of oil content measuring instruments, procedures for discharge of light refined oils, and standard analytical methods to determine instrument accuracy, all in the context of Annex I to the 1973 Convention, offers significant promise and will be included in the program of future cooperation.

g) A review of the question of reception facilities for residues was agreed to be valuable to both sides, and will be included in the program of future cooperation.

h) It was agreed that the development of standards and test methods for equipment for shipboard sewage treatment will be included in the program of future cooperation.

6. The Soviet side provided the U.S. with the following material:

a) Method for Evaluating the Effectiveness of Dispersants and Collecting Agents;

b) Materials on Development and Tests of Booms;

c) Materials on Developing Equipment for Collecting Oil from the Water Surface;

d) Rhythmical Changes of the Membrane Potential of Algal Cells Opaca Caused by the Action of Several Toxic Substances;

e) Algae and Their Use in Researching the Biological Processes of Cells.

7. The U.S. side provided the USSR with the following material:

a) Test results of FRAM 100 GPM separator;

- b) Technical paper on SALWICO monitor;
- c) Preliminary Report on Lockheed and OSI recovery systems tests at OHMSETT and offshore.
- d) Fast current concepts under study (brief description and sketches only).
- e) Oil Spill Identification System, October 1974 (Interim Report).
- f) CHRIS, Volume I (CG-446-1) January 1974.
- g) Waterborne Debris in Marine Pollution Incidents, March 1974. Final Report.
- h) Study of Marine Sanitation System Operating on Saline Water, MARAD-NMRC-273-30110-R1.
- i) Shipboard Sewage Regulations and Disposal Methods, MARAD-NMRC-272-20100-R2.
- j) IMCO MEPC II/WP.4, Report of Working Group on Oil Water Separators.
- k) MARAD Oil-Water Separator Test Installation.
- l) Requirements for an Oil-Water Separator Test Loop, MARAD.
- m) Test plan for the Shoreside Evaluation of Oil-Water Separators.
- n) Investigation of Slop Tank Design to Improve Oil-Water Separation.
- o) Pollution Prevention Projects Branch List of Published Reports, November 1, 1974 (USCG).

8. Recognizing the high competence of the Intergovernmental Marine Consultative Organization (IMCO) as the focus of international concern on marine pollution, both sides agreed that the results of all

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joint tasks of the Working Group should be reported to IMCO for further distribution, particularly in view of the broadened nature of the work to encompass the provisions of the International Convention on Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973.

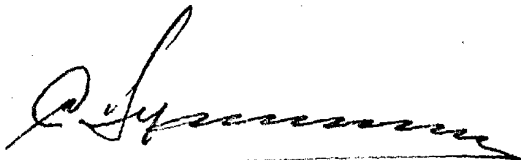
9. In addition to the conclusions reached, the Working Group agreed to investigate the possibility of expanding the forms of cooperation by such means as the publication of joint papers both within the framework of IMCO and in professional journals. Such papers would address questions pursuant to the 1973 Convention as well as oil recovery in open seas and other subjects not covered by the 1973 Convention, and would be authored both through cooperative submissions and as the result of conferences of specialists.

10. Both sides agreed that the next meeting of the Joint US/USSR Working Group (up to two weeks' duration) will be held in the United States during the third or fourth quarter of 1975. An exchange of visits by specialists, up to six persons from each side for six to ten days (one or two reciprocal visits) is proposed. The final decision on the exchange of delegations, duration of visits, and number of members for each delegation will be determined later by correspondence between the Project Leaders. In addition, the Soviet side will consider the invitation for participation of experts in the Conference on Oil Pollution which will be held under the sponsorship of the American Petroleum Institute, Environmental Protection Agency and Coast Guard in San Francisco in the first quarter of 1975. In this latter regard a cooperative paper will be developed for presentation by the USSR Working Group Co-Chairman,

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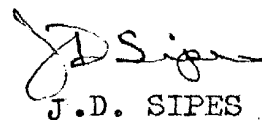
The texts of these Minutes have been prepared in Russian and English and have equal force.

Signed in Moscow on 13 December, 1974.



S.M. NUNUPAROV

USSR Co-Chairman of
the Working Group



J.D. SIPES

US Co-Chairman of
the Working Group

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

U.S. Delegation

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Anthony S. Beliajeff, Interpreter, Department of State.

USSR Delegation

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USSR Project Leader.

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